

Message Text

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16

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 EA-11 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-03 INR-11 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-03 SS-20

STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 OMB-01

SWF-02 FEA-02 IO-14 OIC-04 DRC-01 EUR-25 /228 W

----- 042837

R 052259Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3665

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MEXICO 7572

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, MX, GT

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL MEETING ON MEAT

REF: STATE 185762 AND 181890

1. AGATT MET INFORMALLY WITH RAMOS CANTORAL, DIRECTOR GENERAL, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, SECRETARIAT OF AGRICULTURE, SEPT 3 TO DISCUSS RESULTS OF RAMOS CANTORAL/RETA PETTERSSON VISIT CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRIES DURING WHICH THEY EXPLORED POSSIBILITIES FORMING SINGLE DELEGATION TO REPRESENT MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICA AT INTERNATIONAL MEAT MEETING PROPOSED BY AUSTRALIA.

2. RAMOS CANTORAL ON INFORMAL BASIS INDICATED CONCEPT OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SINGLE DELEGATION REPRESENTING ENTIRE AREA POSES SERIOUS

POLITICAL PROBLEMS FOR ALL COUNTRIES INVOLVED, BUT HOPEFULLY NOT INSURMOUNTABLE. HE SUGGESTED BEST SOLUTION WOULD BE INVITE MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICAN GROUP TO BE REPRESENTED BY TWO SEPARATE DELEGATIONS. THIS WOULD AVOID INFIGHTING BETWEEN MEXICO AND OTHER COUNTRIES FOR LEADERSHIP OF DELEGATION WHICH WOULD NECESSARILY EMBARRASS ALL CONCERNED AND COULD RESULT IN NEITHER ATTENDING. HE DID INDICATE HOWEVER THAT AS LAST RESORT MEXICO WOULD BE WILLING ACCEPT CENTRAL AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVE AS HEAD OF DELEGATION BUT PERSONALLY THOUGHT MEXICO WAS LOGICAL LEADER DUE RELATIVE SIZE OF LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY AND INTERNATIONAL MEAT TRADE.

3. ONE CONCRETE RESULT OF MEXICAN TOUR THROUGH CENTRAL AMERICA WAS TENTATIVE AGREEMENT TO MEET IN MEXICO CITY FOR 2-3 DAYS BEGINNING ABOUT SEPT 15 TO DISCUSS CURRENT SITUATION AND LONG RANGE OUTLOOK FOR LIVESTOCK INDUSTRIES AND MEAT TRADE IN WORLD AND SPECIFICALLY MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICA. MEETING TO BE HOSTED BY GOM AND ATTENDED BY REPS. OF GUATEMALA, EL SALVADOR, NICARAGUA, PANAMA, COSTA RICA AND HONDURAS. THIS MEETING NOT CALLED TO DISCUSS MEETING PROPOSED BY AUSTRALIA BUT COULD SERVE THAT PURPOSE ALSO. HE EMPHASIZED THAT INTENT IS DEFINITELY NOT TO FORM A BLOCK OF MEAT SUPPLYING COUNTRIES THAT COULD AT SOME FUTURE HOLD SUPPLIES OFF THE INTERNATIONAL MARKET TO FORCE PRICES UP AS HAS BEEN DONE IN COFFEE, BUT RATHER TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST AND CONCERN.

4. DR. STUART HARRIS, DEPUTY SECRETARY, AUSTRALIAN DEPT. OVERSEAS TRADE WILL BE IN MEXICO SEPT 6 FOR MEETING WITH RETA PETTERSSON/RAMOS CANTORAL. RAMOS CANTORAL SAID THEY INTEND PUT QUESTION SQUARELY BEFORE HARRIS DURING MEETING WHETHER AUSTRALIA WILLING AGREE TO TWO SEPARATE DELEGATIONS REPRESENTING MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICA. IF FLATLY REJECTED MEXICO WILL AGAIN CONSULT CENTRAL AMERICANS IN EFFORT TO REACH AGREEMENT ON CONCEPT SINGLE DELEGATION REPRESENTING BOTH AREAS. RAMOS CANTORAL ACUTELY AWARE THAT AUSTRALIA HAS NOT AS YET AGREED MEXICO/CENTRAL AMERICA BEING REPRESENTED AT ALL. IN THIS REGARD HE UNDERSTANDS AND APPRECIATES USG POSITION. JOVA

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